GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3329
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2008
COMPENSATION TO FARMERS
Bose Shri Subrata

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether only a meagre amount is paid to the farmers for loss of their crops due to natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted for assessment of losses; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new system for more realistic assessment of losses to ensure adequate compensation to farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (c): In accordance with the items and norms of expenditure for assistance from relief funds in the wake of natural calamities viz. Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for the period 2005-2010, which were revised in June, 2007, input subsidy is admissible to small and marginal farmers for crop loss of 50% and above at the rate of Rs. 2000/- per hectare in rainfed areas, Rs. 4000/- per hectare for areas under assured irrigation and Rs. 6000/- per hectare for all types of perennial crops. Input subsidy is also admissible at the above rates to farmers, other than small and marginal farmers, subject to a ceiling of 1 hectare per farmer for natural calamity occurring for the first time and upto 2 hectares per farmer for successive calamities, irrespective of the size of holding. In addition, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has been implemented in the country, from Rabi 1999-2000 season, as part of risk management in agriculture, with the intention of providing financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of crops as a result of natural calamities, pests and diseases.